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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS AND METHODS FOR REMOVING DYE

(57) Abstract: Chemical compounds and methods for removing dye from polyester fibers, in particular poly(ethylene terephthalate) ("PET") fibers, is disclosed. The compounds and methods are particularly useful for removing dye from panel fabric made from recycled PET fibers. The method involves contacting the PET with a dye removal compound in a sealable vessel. The contents of the vessel are agitated and heated to achieve an increase in pressure and temperature. Following a cooling down period, the PET is removed and rinsed with water. The dye removal compound includes an aqueous solution of at least one leveling agent.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/03046

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  IPC(7) : D06L 3/00; C09B 67/00  US CL : 8/ 102, 137.5, 527					
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)					
U.S. : 8/ 102, 137.5, 527					
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched					
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) WEST - decolor\$ remov\$ dye and (ethylene terephthalate) and polyester					
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category *				Relevant to claim No.	
Y	US 5,972,038 (AMESTICA et al.) 26 October 1999 (26.10.1999), abstract, columns 3-25.			1-55	
Y	US 6,048,367 (DAMHUS et al.) 11 April 2000 (11.04.2000), abstract, columns 2-8.			1-55	
х.	US 4,722,738 (WILSON et al.) 02 February 1988 (02.02.1988), abstract, columns 2-12.			1-55	
Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<u> </u>	See patent family annex.		
			later document published after the inter	mational filing date or priority	
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